



**NEWSLETTER**  
**November 2009**

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This newsletter is intended to provide a recap of some of the healthy homes and lead-based paint information that we have shared in the IHHN meetings or that has come to us through various Listservs. We want to especially thank the [Alliance for Healthy Homes](#) and the [National Center for Healthy Homes](#) for keeping us all in the know with their newsletters and timely posts to LeadNet and HealthyHomesNet.

**COMMENTS BEING ACCEPTED REGARDING DRAFT OF "HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020"**

Comments are being accepted regarding draft objectives for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' "Healthy People 2020" until December 31, 2010.  
<http://www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020/Objectives/TopicAreas.aspx>



**"HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020" PUBLIC MEETING**

Friday November 20, 2009  
Seattle, Washington at Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue  
Sponsor: US Department of Health and Human Services

This meeting will help set national public health goals and objectives for Healthy People 2020. The public meeting is open to everyone, but seating is limited. The public is invited to submit a question or comment ahead of time, via the website, about the development of Healthy People 2020. Your questions will be addressed at the public meeting. An agenda will be posted before the meeting.  
Price: free

Visit the website <http://www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020/regional/default.asp>  
Contact: [2020regional@air.org](mailto:2020regional@air.org)

**CDC'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE**

For those who couldn't attend the conference in person, The Centers for Disease Control has provided an archived webcast of the conference keynote and plenary sessions.  
<http://www.vodium.com/login.asp?lib=pn100753>

**U.S. FAMILIES LIVE WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS AT HOME**

According to new research from the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH), the majority of U.S. families (67 percent) live in a home with at least one major health risk. The results ([www.nchh.org/Resources/Consumer-Survey.aspx](http://www.nchh.org/Resources/Consumer-Survey.aspx)) reveal that although most people realize serious health problems may result from the way their homes are built and maintained, they have not taken action to create a healthy and safe home environment for their loved ones.

NCHH's healthy homes cost and maintenance check list offers additional tips to create a healthy home: [www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Steps\\_for\\_Creating\\_a\\_Healthier\\_Home2009](http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Steps_for_Creating_a_Healthier_Home2009)

## HELP YOURSELF TO A HEALTHY HOME BOOKLET

<http://www.uwex.edu/healthyhome/book.html>

## WHERE DOES ALL THAT DUST COME FROM?

Scientists in Arizona are reporting a surprising answer to that question, which has puzzled and perplexed generations of men and women confronted with layers of dust on furniture and floors. Most of indoor dust comes from outdoors. Their report is scheduled for the Nov. 1 issue of ACS' *Environmental Science & Technology*, a semi-monthly journal.

In the study, David Layton and Paloma Beamer point out that household dust consists of a potpourri that includes dead skin shed by people, fibers from carpets and upholstered furniture, and tracked-in soil and airborne particles blown in from outdoors. It can include lead, arsenic and other potentially harmful substances that migrate indoors from outside air and soil. That can be a special concern for children, who consume those substances by putting dust-contaminated toys and other objects into their mouths. "Migration of Contaminated Soil and Airborne Particulates to Indoor Dust":

<http://pubs.acs.org/stoken/presspac/presspac/full/10.1021/es9003735>



## NEW DATABASE ON NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, EARLY CHILDHOOD, TOBACCO AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission to Build a Healthier America has created a comprehensive database listing experts, organizations and reports related to powerful social factors – such as education, income, housing and neighborhoods – that influence how long and how well people live in America. The searchable database includes contact information for some of the foremost experts in the field, links to download reports and information on organizations that are exploring solutions to improve health.

Go to <http://resources.commissiononhealth.org>.



## HEALTH AND EDUCATION BRIEFING

On September 9, Commissioner Kati Haycock met with leaders in the education community to discuss the Commission to Build a Healthier

America's recommendations related to education. The group reviewed Commission evidence that can be used to make the case for education's important role in improving America's health, including the Commission's new issue brief, [Education Matters for Health](#).

**Review Event Materials:**

[Event Summary](#)

Event Recording: [Part 1](#) | [Part 2](#)

[Education Briefing PowerPoint](#)

**CIGARETTE SMOKE WAFTING INTO NEIGHBOR'S PATIO BRINGS LAWSUIT**

<http://www.tobacco.org/news/292181.html>

**EVEN SLIGHTLY HIGH LEAD LEVELS IN CHILDREN HURT ABILITIES**

[http://www.projo.com/news/content/Lead\\_Hurts\\_Reading\\_10-30-09\\_F5G9AQS\\_v7.39865a3.html](http://www.projo.com/news/content/Lead_Hurts_Reading_10-30-09_F5G9AQS_v7.39865a3.html)

**CHILDHOOD LEAD EXPOSURE LINKED TO FAULTY BRAIN WIRING**

A new research study (<http://tinyurl.com/mzmf68>) published in *NeuroToxicology* concludes that childhood lead exposure can result in abnormalities in the wiring of the brain that persist into adulthood. The study found that low to moderate levels of lead exposure before birth and as a child can permanently change the brain's structure and alter if and how it transmits messages. Those exposures ranged from about 5 to 37 ug/dL of blood, with most falling between 5 and 10.

The changes seen were present in young adults studied, showing the effects of childhood lead exposure are not something that will just get better with time.

**COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL**

It has long been known that the chief remaining cause of lead poisoning is lead-based paint in housing, especially housing built before 1950, when lead paint was commonly used. Gould's study considers recent cost estimates of \$1.2 to \$11 billion to eliminate high-risk lead hazards. The study calculates benefits of \$192 to \$270 billion in avoided medical costs, special education costs, ADHD costs, and criminal activity plus increased tax revenue and increased earnings.

The bottom line is that each dollar invested in lead hazard control results in return of \$17 to \$221.

<http://www.ehponline.org/members/2009/0800408/0800408.html>

**LEAD EXPOSURES DURING RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS WITH LEAD PAINT**

The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health conducted a study to measure worker lead exposures, as well as, lead levels (air and dust) in nearby areas during eight renovation tasks. All of the tasks involved removing exterior lead-based paint, which is typically done prior to repainting. (HETA #99-0113-2853 University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, California)

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/reports/pdfs/1999-0113-2853.pdf>

### **LEAD DUST HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH WINDOW REPLACEMENT IN OLDER HOMES**

If you are embarking on a window replacement project, be aware that EPA sponsored a research project (1997) looking at various work practices in older buildings, and the lead debris fields created. Worst offender: Window replacement (they did not test power sanding). Lead debris adjacent to the work location averaged about 45,000 micrograms per square foot (mcg/ft sq). Aggressive cleanup removed well over 90% of this, but still left about 1,000 mcg/ft sq, greatly exceeding HUD's clearance level of 40 mcg/ft sq.

The lesson here is that site protection is a much better approach than good cleanup, and that this work can create a substantial lead hazard.

The report is: "Lead exposure associated With Renovation and Remodeling Activities" EPA 747-R-96-005 May 1997.



### **EPA-ACCREDITED RRP TRAINERS**

<http://epa.gov/lead/pubs/trainingproviders.htm>

### **EPA PROPOSES EXPANSION OF NEW RRP RULE FOR LEAD PAINT**

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, EPA issued a proposed rule to expand the coverage of the 2008 Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule. The new rule proposes to eliminate a provision that exempted some housing from the rule's requirement that contractors be trained and certified and use lead-safe work practices when renovating, repairing or painting a pre-1978 home.

EPA will take comment on the proposal for 30 days and expects to finalize the rule by April 2010.

More information: <http://www.epa.gov/lead>

### **LEAD POISONING SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE – KeepKidsHealthy.com**

<http://tinyurl.com/ykc2fzg>

### **NITROGEN DIOXIDE HASTENS RELEASE OF LEAD FROM LEAD-BASED PAINT**

Nitrogen dioxide and ozone in automobile exhaust combine with LBP to hasten the release of leaded dust. So if you live on a busy street, you apparently are put at heightened risk to lead exposure also by increased air pollution, as well as street dust.

The summary of the research report was in Chemical and Engineering News, October 26, 2009. The original research article is in Env. Sci. Tech. DOI:10.1021/es901077m.

## **PREVENTING LEAD POISONING IN INDOOR FIRING RANGES**

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/OH/shooting.html>

## **LEAD, TOBACCO, CIGARETTE SMOKE AND ASH**

Lead present in tobacco volatilizes during the burning of the cigarette. The most common way lead gets into tobacco is through arsenate pesticides. Approximately 5% of this lead may be inhaled; the remainder occurs in the ash and side-stream smoke (Mussalo-Rauhamaa et al., 1986).

[http://www.seriaz.org/downloads/Lead\\_info.pdf#search=](http://www.seriaz.org/downloads/Lead_info.pdf#search=)

## **LEAD IN JIGONG CHAYOTE CANDY**

California Department of Public Health warns consumers not to eat Jigong Chayote candy imported from China. It has been found to contain as much as 0.68 parts per million (ppm) of lead.

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/NR09-97.aspx>



## **POTENTIAL FACE PAINT DANGER**

Some face paint might contain lead, and other potentially dangerous heavy metals, according to a study from The Campaign for Safe Cosmetics. The health and environmental group tested 10 Halloween face paints at an independent lab. They all came back positive for lead.

In addition to lead, the research also found nickel, cobalt, and chromium in some of the face paints, which can cause allergic reactions. And they're not listed on the packaging because cosmetics aren't regulated.

<http://cbs3.com/health/face.paint.safety.2.1275636.html>

[http://safecosmetics.org/downloads/PrettyScary\\_Oct2709.pdf](http://safecosmetics.org/downloads/PrettyScary_Oct2709.pdf)

## **\$2.5 MILLION AWARDED TO TWO CHILDREN IN RECENT LEAD POISONING TRIAL**

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-city/bal-md.ci.lead04nov04,0,5730676.story>

## **EPA FINES LANDLORD \$7,952 OVER LEAD-BASED PAINT VIOLATIONS**

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/d46bc764918aeae285257664006430f6?OpenDocument>

## **OTHER LINKS:**

HUD's Office of Health Homes and Lead Hazard Control -- <http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/>

EPA -- [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

OSHA -- [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

National Center for Healthy Housing -- <http://www.nchh.org/Home.aspx>

Alliance for Healthy Homes -- [www.afhh.org](http://www.afhh.org)

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; Product Recalls --

<http://cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerel.html>

LeadNet – international listserve on lead and lead poisoning; to subscribe: [Leadnet-on@mail-list.com](mailto:Leadnet-on@mail-list.com)

To search LeadNet Archives -- <http://archive.mail-list.com/leadnet>

User Name = leadnet

Password = lswp (The User Name and Password are case-sensitive.)

For parents of a lead-poisoned child: [www.alphalead.org](http://www.alphalead.org)

Tamara Rubin's (Portland, OR) website: <http://www.mychildrenhaveleadpoisoning.com>